maiuls relating to their career prospects, conditions of work etc.

(c) During the strike the smooth work ing of the hospital is affected.

(d) and-(e) There is a well laid out procedure for tackling a strike situation which is invoriably adopted to avoid in convenience to the patients and public. In AIIMS and Safdarjung Hospital during the last 3 years, various groups of em ployees went on strike/mass casual leave 6 times and 3 times respectively.

Sale of VSNL shares by UTI

466. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIR-LA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India sold its substantial portion of VSNL shares when the scrip was already under pressure and the scrip prices have been sliding;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the outcome of the investi-gations if any, made by Government into

the circumstances leading to the sale of VSNL shares by UTI ahead of sell off; and

(d) the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Unit Trust of India (UTI) during the period November'95 to Octob-er'96 it sold 21,45,200 shares of VSNL. The market operations were undertaken by UTI to meet redemption and dividend requirements of the schemes of UTI.

(c) and (d) The Government has not undertaken any investigation into the matter as Financial Institutions manage their portfolio based on their commercial perception and internal norms.

Stipend to Graduate Internees by Private Medical and Dental Colleges

467. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMI LY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private medical and dental colleges are required to pay stipend to their graduate internees;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether it is a fact that majority of these colleges do not pay the amount; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to curb this practice;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQ-BAL SHERVANI): (a), (b) and (d) Dental Council of India Regulations on BDS Course provide that every candidate will be required after passing the fip BDS examination to undergo one year paid internship in a dental college. However, Medical Council of India Regulations/ recommendation on Graduate Medical Education do not stipulate paid internship.

(c) Government have no information.

Revenue projection and earnings by DD during 1996-97

468. SHRIMATI JAYANTI FAT-NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMA TION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been substantial growth in Doordarshan (DD) revenue during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the total mount of revenue earned by DD from various channels during the seven months of 1996-97;

(c) the projection made for the current year; and

(d) the year-wise total revenue earned by DD from the different sources/programmes during the last three years?